

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the two paragraphs that start on page 2, line 24 and end on page 3, line 16 as shown below.

One particular time a file system is mounted is just before the file system is exported. To export a file system is to make the file system available for NFS clients to mount (i.e., to attach the branch to their own tree). When exporting a file system, the mount point as well as the name of the storage device containing the file system must be provided (i.e., ~~the name of the branch and the location on the tree where the branch is to be attached as well as the location where the branch is stored~~ must be provided). If the file system is mounted, all the needed information is known; hence, the reason why file systems are mounted before they are exported.

~~Nonetheless, most Unix-based servers contain a great number of file systems. Due to design limitations, all the file systems may not be mounted simultaneously. Hence, a lot of these servers adopt a policy of mounting file systems when they are needed and of dismounting or unmounting them unless they are used within a pre-defined amount of time.~~ As mentioned before, most Unix-based servers mount some file systems only when they are needed. But, if a mounted non-critical OS file system has not been used within a pre-defined amount of time, it will be unmounted. This allows for other file systems to be mounted if needed. As will be explained later, mounting file systems can be a relatively time-consuming and CPU-intensive endeavor. Thus, mounting file systems only for

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export purposes may be a great waste of time and energy, especially if the file systems are subsequently dismounted without ever having been used.

Please amend the paragraph on page 13, lines 9 - 21 as shown below.

The problem is that currently when a server wants to export a file system, it must mount the file system at a mount point to determine the name of the device within which the file system is located. To illustrate this point, consider file system A shown in Fig. 4 and file system B depicted in Fig. 5. File system A is a file system that is usually mounted on startup. File system A contains directories foo 400, which is a root directory, bar 410 and dir1 420. Root directory foo 400 and directory bar 410 may contain files and other directories stored therein. However, directory dir1 420 is an empty directory. To access dir1, a user must type in "/foo/bar/dir1" as a pathname.

Please amend the paragraph on page 14, line 25 and ends on page 15, line 2 as shown below.

An extended attribute is additional non-user data that is associated with a file system object. An extended attribute is different from the traditional Unix object attributes such as ownerships, access permission etc. In

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most Unix-based systems, very little restrictions are placed on contents of extended attributes. Hence, any application program may attach an extended attribute to any object. The attached extended attribute may or may not have meaning outside of that application.

Please amend the paragraph on page 15, lines 21 - 26 as shown below.

Thus, upon startup and after file system A (see fig. 4) is mounted, the extended attribute associated with mount point dir1 is checked to determine the names of the devices ~~that~~ which contain the file systems to be mounted at that mount point. Once this is determined, the file systems may be exported.

IN THE BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the two paragraphs that start on page 5, lines 25 - 28 as shown below.

Fig. 8 illustrates information contained in an extended attribute file.

Fig. 8 9 illustrates a flow diagram of a process that may be used by the present invention.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

In Fig. 1, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number "1/6" to 1/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

In Fig. 2, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number "2/6" to 2/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

In Fig. 3, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number "3/6" to 3/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

In Fig. 4, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number "4/6" to 4/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

In Fig. 6, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number "5/6" to 5/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

Please add new Fig. 8 to the Drawings.

In Fig. 8, please change Attorney Docket "AUS920010866" to AUS920010866US1 and change Sheet number

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"6/6" to 7/7 as shown in red in the corrected sheet attached to this Response.

Further, please relabel "Fig. 8" Fig. 9 and change reference numerals "800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820" to 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920 as shown in the corrected figure.